

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Chang Yang on 6/22/2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

After the final line of both claims 11 and 32, replace the period with a comma and then insert the limitations:

-- wherein the guide component comprises at least one guide groove parallel to the axial direction of the main valve member and extending into the hollow cylindrical section, and said guide groove includes a section facing the bypass valve member, and the bypass valve member comprises a radial lug introduced into the section of the guide groove in a bayonet connection. --

Reasons for Allowance

2. **Claims 11-21, 23-27, and 29-32 are allowed.**

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not anticipate nor render obvious the combination set forth in the independent claims, and specifically does not disclose the following: a bypass valve having a valve spring surrounding a main valve member, a guide component, and an expansion element, the guide component comprising a guide groove extending into a

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hollow section, and wherein a bypass valve member comprises a radial lug which is introduced into the section of the guide groove in a bayonet connection.

The closest prior art of record, Saur (US 4,674,679) and Henschel (DE 4231649), discloses all of the other limitations required by the claims, but not a bypass valve having a valve spring surrounding a main valve member, a guide component, and an expansion element, the guide component comprising a guide groove extending into a hollow section, and wherein a bypass valve member comprises a radial lug which is introduced into the section of the guide groove in a bayonet connection.

Although Saur teaches a thermostatic bypass valve used in an internal combustion engine which includes a main valve member, a guide component, and an expansion element, there is no teaching in the prior art of record that would, reasonably and absent impermissible hindsight, motivate one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of the prior art to incorporate a valve spring surrounding the main valve member, the guide component, and the expansion element, the guide component comprising a guide groove extending into a hollow section, and wherein a bypass valve member comprises a radial lug which is introduced into the section of the guide groove in a bayonet connection..

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JONATHAN BRADFORD whose telephone number is (571)270-5199. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl Tyler, can be reached on (571) 272-4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/J. B./
Examiner, Art Unit 3744
6/23/2011

/CHERYL J. TYLER/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3744